

(ii) if so, what;

(e) whether if the answer is in the affirmative, the scale has come into effect?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer):

(a) 2 Section Superintendents and 19 Work Superintendents.

(b) Rs. 40—60 for Section Superintendents and Rs. 25—40 for Work Superintendents.

(c) The question of revision of pay of the Work Superintendents was considered before and dropped on financial grounds.

(d) No.

(e) No answer is necessary.

Mr. K. S. Panicker (Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram): May I know what was the recommendation of the Chief Engineer when the matter was considered.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): That cannot be disclosed.

ARTICLE IN THE "MALABAR MAIL"—"OUR ROADS"

127. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have read the article on page 1 of the "Malabar Mail" dated, 24th June 1943 under the caption "Our roads" (നമ്മുടെ റോഡുകൾ) by പഥിക് (way-farer);

(b) the action taken by Government to improve the roads referred to therein?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer):

(a) Yes.

(b) Two Roads have been mentioned in this article, viz., The Perumanur road in the Ernakulam Town and the Hill Palace road.

The Perumanur road has been now transferred to the P. W. D. from the Municipality. The necessary immediate repairs have been done to it since, and arrangements have been made for thoroughly repairing it.

The Hill Palace road is in fair condition.

PUBLIC LIBRARY AND READING ROOM, TRICHUR

128. Mr. M. Krishna Menon (Trichur-North): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether representations have been made in regard to the disturbances and difficulties experienced by the Public Library and Reading Room, located in the Town Hall Buildings, Trichur on days of Public Functions in the Town Hall;

(b) whether suggestion have been made by the Library Authorities to get over the difficulties;

(c) whether any inquiry been made into the matter; and

(d) whether any measures have been taken to remove the difficulty?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer):

(a) Yes.

(b) A suggestion to put in collapsible steel shutters at the entrances to the rear room from the Library hall was made.

(c) Yes.

(d) Due to war conditions the question of putting up steel shutters was found to be a costly item. Further the putting up of steel shutters will mar the beauty of the interior. The putting up of wooden shutters will not harmonise with the design to the building.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon (Trichur-North): May I know whether in answer (d), "steel shutters" means "collapsible iron gates?"

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): Collapsible steel shutters.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon (Trichur-North): Was there not a suggestion to put half panelled shutters between the Foyer and the Crush hall?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): Such works of having more shutters in the building was found to be not suitable for that.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon (Trichur-North): May I know whether the Hon'ble member had any occasion to notice the difficulty in the Public Library and Reading Room when public functions are held in the Town Hall?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): Those occasions are very rare.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon (Trichur-North): May I know whether in such occasions the entrances from the Foyer could not be closed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): To get the proper atmosphere it is necessary to go through the main entrance. On these days, I suggested to the authorities that the reading room should be shifted to the pressroom which is also to the south of the main hall, and they could read newspapers.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon (Trichur-North): Cannot entry to the Hall be made through the sides?

Mr. President: It has been explained already that it is only on rare occasions that the Town Hall is used for public functions.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL—ERNAKULAM

129. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have noted in the "Malabar Mail", dated 12th June 1943 an article under the Caption "The Government High School for Girls, Ernakulam" on the last page of that issue written by a Guardian;

(b) whether they have noted the following significant sentences in that article;

(1) എന്നാൽ പണി തീർന്ന കാലംമുതൽ അത് ഈ നാട്ടിലെ കാലാവസ്ഥയ്ക്ക് തീരെ പറ്റിയതല്ലെന്ന വിചിത്രവിചിത്രതകൊണ്ടാണ് നിലകൊള്ളുന്നത്.

(2) എന്തിന്! നിയമസഭയിൽപോലും ഈ ഗെറുസ് ഹൈസ്കൂളിലെ വെള്ള പൊക്കുകയും ആലോചനാവിഷയവും വാദപ്രതിവാദവസ്തുവും ആയിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്;

(c) whether there is not a request in the article that the Director of Public Instruction and the Diwan be pleased to pay a visit to this institution when there is heavy rain to see in person the hardship of the girls;

(d) whether any steps are taken to remedy the evils pointed in that article?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer):

(a) and (b) Yes.

(1) and (2) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The leakages have been repaired.

130. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether the news published in the "Malabar" Mail, dated 23rd June 1943 on page 2 under the Caption "സക്കാർ ഗെറുസ് സ്കൂൾ കെട്ടിടം ഡയറക്ടർ പരിശോധിച്ചു" is a fact;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to remedy the evils pointed out in the previous article of the "Malabar Mail" about this High School?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (Director of Public Instruction):

(a) Yes.

(b) Vide answer to question No. 129.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): Will the Government be pleased to see that the building is roofed and some verandahs are constructed according to the Malabar pattern?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): The building is already roofed.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): Is it roofed with tiles.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): Yes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): I may say verandahs on all sides may be constructed.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): The cost of constructing verandahs will come to about Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): Rs. 25,000 is after all a small amount compared with the health of the children.

Mr. Joseph Pettah (Adur): Has the building any caves projecting over the walls?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): No. It has got gutters.

Mr. Joseph Pettah (Adur): Do not Government think that it is because of the absence of caves that there is trouble when it rains?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): After reading those papers I had a look at it. It was a surprise for me to find in one or two places small leakages. I got it repaired at a cost of about Rs. 2 or Rs. 3, and the whole thing is quite alright.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan (Ezhuvas-Kanayannur): Is it not a fact that on all evenings the shutters are closed to prevent both the sun-shine and on rainy days to prevent the rain? It is not on account of the leakages but on account of the absence of eaves.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): The whole trouble this year is this. Glass shutters had to be removed on account of the A. R. precautions and wooden shutters were put in their place. Due to improper handling the wooden shutters cannot be closed, with the result that during nights those shutters were left open and during rains some water might have got into the building through these open windows and in the morning when they opened they found water and they thought that there was leakage and they started to find fault with the building.